Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 199413

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DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE (S/S 7616780)
APPROVED BY EA:OVARMSTRONG
EA/ROC - D. BROWN
S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS STATE 199413

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, TW

SUBJECT: P9ESIDENTIAL RESPONSE TO CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM YEN CHIA-KAN ON THE VIKING LANDING

1. PRESIDENT YEN CHIA-KAN HAS SENT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD CONGRATULATING THE US ON THE VIKING LANDING:

QUOTE: I WISH TO EXTEND TO YOU AND THROUGH YOU TO VIKING PROJECT DIRECTOR JIM MARTIN AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OUR HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SUCCESSFUL LANDING OF VIKING ONE SPACECRAFT ON THE SURFACE OF MARS. IT IS INDEED A HISTORIC MISSION THE UNITED STATES HAS COMPLETED WHICH HAS OPENED A NEW FRONTIER IN MAN'S EXPLORATION OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM. THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA SHARE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S EXCITEMENT AND PRIDE FOR THIS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT. YEN CHIA-KAN, PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF CHINA.UNQUOTE

2. PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT YEN CHIA-KAN: UNCLASSIFIED

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QUOTE: MR. PRESIDENT: ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND MESSAGE ON THE SUCCESS OF THE VIKING MISSION.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT MAN GAIN PERSPECTIVE ON HIS PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE. THIS UNDERLYING MOTIVATION OF OUR SPACE PROGRAM HAS SPARKED SOME OF OUR MOST IMAGINATIVE AND IMPORTANT EFFORTS. WE HOPE THAT THE EXPLORATION OF MARS AND THE SEARCH FOR LIFE ON THAT MYSTERIOUS PLANET WILL ALSO IMPROVE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF OUR OWN PLANET AND WILL PROMOTE COOPERATION AMONG ALL PEOPLES ON EARTH.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A CONTINUED PROGRAM OF IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES IN SPACE, AIMED NOT ONLY AT IMMEDIATE APPLICATIONS TO OUR PRESSING PROBLEMS BUT ALSO AT ACHIEVING A MORE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE QUESTIONS SO CRUCIAL

TO THE FUTURE OF MANKIND. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD UNQUOTE

3. NO RELEASE OF TEXT INTENDED THOUGH NO OBJECTION IF RECIPIENT WISHES TO DO SO. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PDIP, US, TW, (FORD, GERALD R), (YEN CHIA-KAN)

To: TAIPEI

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